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Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An aqueous composition useful for polishing silica and silicon nitride on a semiconductor wafer comprising by weight percent 0.01 to 5 zwitterionic compound, 0.01 to 5 carboxylic acid polymer, 0.02 to 6 abrasive ceria, 0 to 5 cationic compound and balance water, the zwitterionic compound having the following structure:

$$X_{2} \xrightarrow{\bigoplus_{1}^{Y}} \underbrace{M}_{X_{3}} \xrightarrow{CH} \underbrace{CH}_{n} \overset{\bigcirc}{Z}$$

wherein n is an integer, Y comprises hydrogen or an alkyl group, Z comprises carboxyl, sulfate or oxygen, M comprises nitrogen, phosphorus or a sulfur atom, and  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$  and  $X_3$  independently comprise substituents selected from the group comprising, hydrogen, an alkyl group and an aryl group.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the zwitterionic compound has the following structure:

- 3. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the cationic compound is selected from the group comprising: alkyl amines, aryl amines, quaternary ammonium compounds and alcohol amines.
  - 4. (Canceled)
- 5. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim [4] 1 wherein the ceria has an average particle size of between 50-200 nm.
  - 6. (Original) The composition of claim 1 wherein the aqueous composition has a pH of 4 to 9.

7. (Currently amended) An aqueous composition useful for polishing silica and silicon nitride on a semiconductor wafer comprising by weight percent 0.01 to 5 N,N,N-trimethylammonioacetate, 0.01 to 5 polyacrylic acid polymer, 0.02 to 6 ceria, 0 to 5 cationic compound and balance water, wherein the aqueous composition has a pH of 4 to 9.

8 - 10. (Canceled)